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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/800,570	03/08/2001	Joachim Bertsch	004501-530	5371

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EXAMINER

KIM, PAUL L

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2857

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/800,570

Applicant(s)

BERTSCH ET AL.

Examiner

Paul L Kim

Art Unit

2857

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 November 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**DETAILED ACTION**

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-5, 7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Chen.

With regard to claims 1, 4, and 5, Chen teaches a method for assessing the stability of an electrical network comprising: measuring phasor data for voltages and current at various locations in the network (col. 4, lines 40-42), transmitting phasor data to a system protection center (col. 13, lines 56-68), transmitting information regarding state of switches or relays of a substation to the system protection center (col. 4, lines 29-33, col. 5, lines 23-30, & fig. 5, part 10), and determining a stability margin value of the network from phasor data and switch data (col. 5, lines 42+).

With regard to claim 2, Chen teaches the system protection center determining and transmitting control commands to a substation and the substation executing the control commands (col. 13, lines 58-60).

With regard to claim 3, Chen teaches the system protection center determining network state information (col. 3, lines 44-46), transmitting the network state information to an energy management system (col. 1, lines 17+), and controlling power generation and power flow within the network according to the network state information (col. 3, lines 54-56).

Art Unit: 2857

With regard to claim 7, Chen teaches a system protection center for a transmission network comprising a data concentrator for storing phasor data from measurement units in a power transmission network and for storing substation data from a plurality of substations (col. 13, lines 51-56) and a system protection unit for generating a stability margin value of the network (fig. 5, part 22-3 & col. 12, lines 53-68).

With regard to claim 9, Chen teaches the system protection center comprising means for transmitting network state information to an energy management system of the transmission network (col. 13, lines 51-53).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen in view of Corrigan et al.

Chen teaches measuring phasor data (col. 4, lines 40-42), but does not teach the measurement of phasor data being synchronized by timing information from the global positioning system. Corrigan et al teaches phasor data being synchronized by timing information from the global positioning system (col. 7, lines 54-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify Chen so

that phasor data is synchronized by timing information from the positioning system, as taught by Corrigan et al, so as to accurately calculate stability margin value.

5. Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chen over Teyssandier et al.

Chen does not teach the system protection center comprising an *automated* control unit for generating commands for a substation automation unit. Teyssandier et al teaches a remote transmission device that generates commands for an automation unit by an automated control unit (abstract & fig. 1). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, at the time of the invention, to modify Chen so that commands are generated by an automated control unit from a margin value, as taught by Teyssandier et al, so as to control the transmission device from a remote location without human intervention.

### ***Response to Arguments***

6. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-9 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Paul Kim whose telephone number is 703-305-7468. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 10:00-7:00.


Application/Control Number: 09/800,570  
Art Unit: 2857

Page 5

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Marc Hoff can be reached on 703-308-1677. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-746-4440 for regular communications and for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0956.

PK  
January 21, 2003

  
MARC S. HOFF  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800